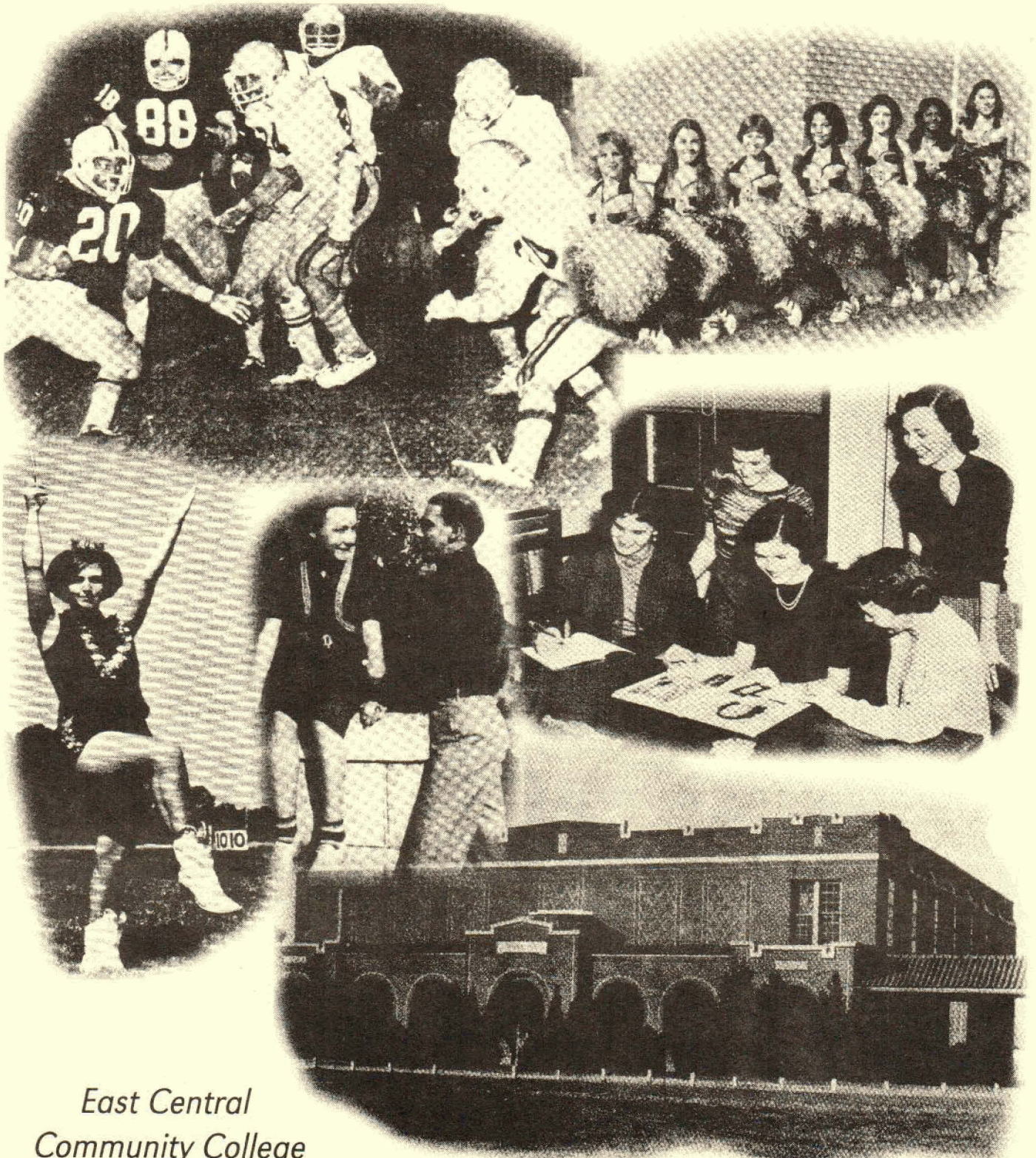


MRJF-140  
ECCC

# CELEBRATE IN '98



East Central  
Community College  
October 10, 1998

## HOMECOMING



# Record of Alumni Association Awards

## Alumni of the Year

1964-B.O. Smith (Deceased)  
 1965-Lucille Wood, Decatur  
 1966-Henry D. Horton, Louisville  
 1967-Crowley Alford (Deceased)  
 1968-W.H. Johnson, Jr., Decatur  
 1969-Arthur Winstead (Deceased)  
 1970-Leon Sims (Deceased)  
 1971-Charles Carter, Jackson  
 1972-Dr. William L. Weems, Jackson  
 1973-Arno Vincent, Meridian  
 1974-Elizabeth K. Darby, Philadelphia  
 1975-W.C. Spence (Deceased)  
 1976-John Risher, Philadelphia  
 1977-Jessie M. Everett, Decatur  
 1978-Class of 1928, First Class  
 1979-Glenn D. Walker, Union  
 1980-Russell Walton (Deceased)  
 1981-Dwight Mulholland, Collinsville  
 1982-Denver Brackeen, Union  
 1983-Frank Hunter, Brookhaven  
 1984-Herman Alford (Deceased)  
 1985-Carl B. Cooper (Deceased)  
     Dr. Beverly Oliphant,  
     Washington, D.C.  
 1986-Kenneth Madison, Philadelphia  
     Dr. Pam Kirk, Louisville  
 1987-Dr. Brad Tucker, Decatur  
     Dr. Addie R. Lee,  
     Birmingham, AL  
 1988-Henry B. Hudspeth, Louisville  
     Dr. Verbie Prevost, Hixson, TN  
 1989-Dr. Eddie M. Smith, Decatur  
     Dr. Walterine Herrington Bell,  
     Jackson  
 1990-Larry Hogue, Flowood  
     Jo McMullan Taylor, Forest  
 1991-Dr. Clyde Muse, Raymond  
     Lois Blount Cooper, Decatur  
 1992-Earl Marshall, Clinton  
     June Bailey, Biloxi  
 1993-Melvin Tingle, Decatur  
     Patsy Dunigan Clark, Louisville  
 1994-Paul V. Breazeale, Jackson  
     Jane Todd Gurry, Raleigh, NC  
 1995-Dr. John Gipson, Newton  
     Wanda Comans Sharp, Sebastopol  
 1996-Ray Britt, Walnut Grove  
     Brenda Whatley Kirby, Forest  
 1997-Dick Livingston, Pulaski  
     Carol Farish Vickers, Decatur  
 1998-T. H. (Tam) Etheridge, Jackson  
     Nell Allen Rogers, Philadelphia

## Athletic Hall of Fame

1985-Denver Brackeen, Union  
 1986-Lucille Wood, Decatur  
 1987-Billy Wayne Baucum (Deceased)  
 1988-Howard Jean Sessums (Deceased)  
 1989-Lamar Blount, Decatur  
     Arno Vincent, Meridian  
     Earl Marshall, Clinton  
 1990-Jeff Loper, Decatur  
     Richard Harris, Hickory  
     Sherrell Ray Marshall, Jackson  
 1991-Larry Henderson, Daphne, AL  
     Diana Lyons Jones, Bay Springs  
     Wayne Tullos, Belle Glade, FL  
 1992-Evelyn Bender, Lawrence  
     Joe Clark, Decatur  
     Bert Thompson (Deceased)  
 1993-Esther Thomas Coleman,  
     Louisville  
     Barbara Jo Davidson Russell,  
     Decatur  
     Louis Watwood, Arlington, VA  
 1994-Charlene Bates Jones, Forest  
     Charlie Hope, Sharpsburg, GA  
     Malcolm "Puddin" Jones  
     (Deceased)  
 1995-Clayton Blount, Decatur  
     Nan Huston Keenan, Rose Hill  
     James T. "Jim" Wood, Louisville  
 1996-M.E. "Boe" Davis, Cary, NC  
     John W. Golden,  
     Stone Mountain, GA  
     Julie Latham, Morton  
     Malcolm Phillips, Newton  
 1997-Tommye Williamson Alfonso  
     (Deceased)  
     Lester Baucum, Wiggins  
     James L. "Creeper" Nelson,  
     Newton  
 1998-Van Chancellor, Houston, TX  
     Deborah Norwood Duncan,  
     Philadelphia  
     Howard Sessums, Clinton

## Instructors of the Year

1982-Ovid Vickers  
 1983-Dr. Shelby Harris  
 1984-Jessie M. Everett  
 1985-Bruce Guraedy  
     Al Bailey  
 1986-Ann Burkes  
     O.L. Newell  
 1987-Tommy Thrash  
     Chester Clark  
 1988-Dr. Richard Ethridge  
     John Adcock  
 1989-Joe Clark  
     Larry Blackburn  
 1990-Lois McMullan  
     Wallace Keen  
 1991-Tom Carson  
     Ricky Harrison  
 1992-Ron Davis  
     Lester Miles  
 1993-Lucille Wood  
     Sara Griffin  
 1994-Alice Pouncey  
     Elizabeth Breland  
 1995-Al Deaton  
     Sarah A. Griffin  
 1996-Charles Hinson  
     Jimmy Dempsey  
 1997-Dr. Richard Fisher  
     Brenda Johnson  
 1998-Leesa Wilkinson  
     Conrad Germany

## Lifetime Achievement Awards

1991-Dr. Austin Boggan, Decatur  
 1994-Homer Hunter, Decatur  
     Ovid Vickers, Decatur  
 1996-W.H. Johnson, Jr., Decatur  
     J. W. Thrash, Decatur

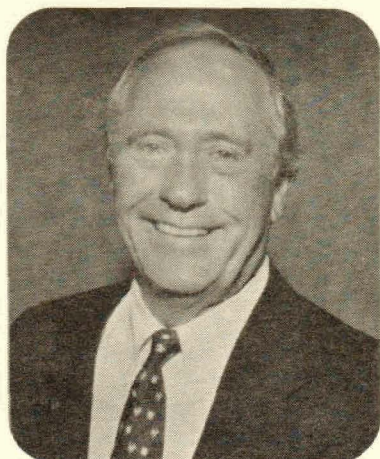


# *Alumni Luncheon*

*Mabry Memorial Cafeteria, October 10, 1998, Noon*

Presiding.....	Mrs. Sandra Amis President, ECCC Alumni Association
Entertainment.....	Miss Tonya Morgan ECCC Music Keyboard Instructor
Invocation.....	Mr. Paul Simmons Class of 1948
Welcome and Introductions.....	Dr. Eddie M. Smith President
East Central Community College Foundation, Inc., Report.....	Mr. David Howell Chairman, Board of Directors
Recognition of the Homecoming Court.....	Dr. Eddie M. Smith
Nominating Committee Report and Election of Officers.....	Mrs. Ann Burkes Head Librarian and Co-Chair, Homecoming Steering Committee
Recognition of Special Alumni Groups.....	Mr. Larry Hogue Director of Development and Alumni Relations and Co-Chair, Homecoming Steering Committee
Classes ending in "8" 1945-1946 and 1946-1947 Women's Basketball Teams Warrior Marching Band Alumni	
Special Recognitions.....	Mr. Randall Lee Dean of Students
Golf Tournament Winners.....	Mr. Joe Clark Men's Golf Coach
Tennis Tournament Winners.....	Mr. Mike Anderson Activities Director
Presentation of Instructors of the Year.....	Dr. Phil Sutphin Dean of Instruction
Presentation of the Athletic Hall of Fame Awards.....	Mr. Sammy Pace Athletic Director and Head Women's Basketball Coach
Presentation of Alumna of the Year.....	Dr. Eddie M. Smith
Presentation of Alumnus of the Year.....	Dr. Eddie M. Smith
Adjourn	





## *"Alumnus of the Year"* **T.H. "Tam" Etheridge**

*Jackson*

Tam Etheridge, a 1953 ECCC graduate, serves as chairman and chief executive officer of Choctaw Maid Farms, Inc. in Carthage. Under Etheridge's leadership, Choctaw Maid Farms has grown from its humble beginnings in the 1950's to one of the nation's leading poultry companies. In addition to the processing plant and headquarters in Carthage, the company operates facilities in Forest, Crystal Springs, Pelahatchie, Union, Walnut Grove and Newton.

The company recently completed a major expansion program, which included construction of a new hatchery in Walnut Grove, a new state-of-the-art feed mill in Union and a new hatchery in Newton. The Walnut Grove facility produces 1.5 million baby chicks per week; the Union feed mill, considered to be the largest poultry feed mill in the country, has the capacity to produce 22,500 tons of feed per week; and the Newton hatchery,

regarded as one of the largest in the nation, produces two million baby chicks per week. Recent renovations and expansions have also been made at the Carthage facility, which now includes over 300,000 square feet with over 2,000 employees, and the Forest plant, where major internal improvements have been made.

Overall, Choctaw Maid Farms has over 3000 employees, processing over 2.5 million chickens per week, with a total annual payroll of over \$39 million. In addition to offering competitive wages and salaries, the company provides health and dental benefits, 401K plans, profit sharing and tuition assistance for those who want to continue their education.

Etheridge's expertise in the poultry business is widely recognized, as he serves as chairman and chief executive officer of several corporations, all of which are engaged in the production, processing and

marketing of poultry and poultry-related products. He has also served as an officer or board member of several other corporations involving insurance, laboratories, protein conversion, real estate and environmental services.

He was elected for two terms to serve as chairman of the poultry industry's National Trade Association with headquarters in Washington, D. C., and continues to serve on that board. In addition, Etheridge has served as chairman of the Mississippi Poultry Association and the Mississippi Manufacturers Association and continues to serve on these boards. He has also served as president of the Carthage Rotary Club, Carthage/Leake County Chamber of Commerce, Industrial Development Association, Airport Board and a member of the State Chamber of Commerce Board. In addition, he is a former president of the Reserve Officers Association, Mississippi

Department.

In addition to his success in the poultry business, Etheridge experienced a rewarding military career, having reached the rank of Rear Admiral when he retired from service in 1990. In all, Etheridge's Navy career spanned 35 years, with three and half years served in active duty and the balance spent in the Reserves.

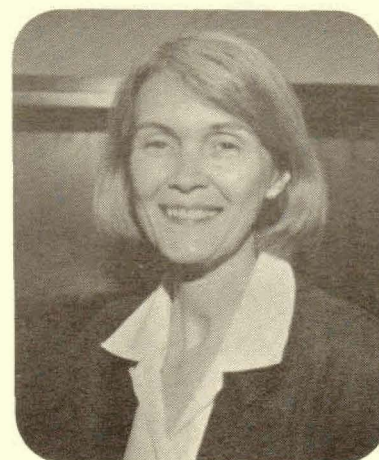
A graduate of Louisville High School, Etheridge received a bachelor's degree in accounting from Mississippi State University.

Etheridge and his wife, the former Nora Reagan, have two grown children. Eric Etheridge lives in New York where he works for Microsoft and is executive producer of New York Sidewalk, located on the Internet. His wife, Kate, is a playwright. Anne Etheridge lives in San Francisco where she is executive producer of Bay Area Video Coalition, a post-production video company.



# *"Alumna of the Year"* **Nell Allen Rogers**

*Philadelphia*



Nell Rogers, who attended East Central during the 1965-66 college term, serves as congressional liaison for the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians in Philadelphia. In her work, she outlines federal policy concerns raised by the tribal government to members of the Congressional delegation, emphasizing the importance of local control and tribal sovereignty.

Rogers began her career with MBCI as a teacher in and later director of the Choctaw Adult Education Program. During her association with the adult program, the federal government gave tribes the opportunity to operate their own programs rather than have the Bureau of Indian Affairs do it for them. The Choctaw tribe chose adult education as its first contract program.

She later left the Choctaw program and moved to Cambridge, Massachusetts, where she worked for the Boston Indian Center developing education programs for

adults and later for children and the elderly. During this period, she also began working for other tribes as a consultant, setting up educational programs and traveling to a number of reservations and urban Indian centers. In her work, she developed and evaluated community-based education programs, including some programs for Indian-controlled community colleges.

Rogers returned to MBCI in 1981 as a planner and later congressional liaison. As a planner, Rogers worked with her tribal colleagues in planning the Choctaw Tribal School System, which is the largest tribal-controlled reservation school system in the country, in compacting the tribal health care system and in preparing successful grant applications for funds for a wide range of education, health and construction projects. Now, she primarily follows and analyzes legislation and meets with members of congressional staffs or with representatives from federal agencies, depending on the issue.

Between her work for the tribe and her travels, Rogers has also found time to serve on various other boards and associations.

She served as a member of the Mississippi State Board for Community and Junior Colleges from 1990-96, serving as vice chair for the 1995-96 term. As a board member, she was responsible for helping approve programs and make policies concerning Mississippi's community and junior colleges.

Rogers is a member of the American Educational Research Association, the National Indian Education Association, and is a founding board member of the National Indian Adult Education Association, an organization composed of tribal and non-tribal people associated with adult literacy and GED programs.

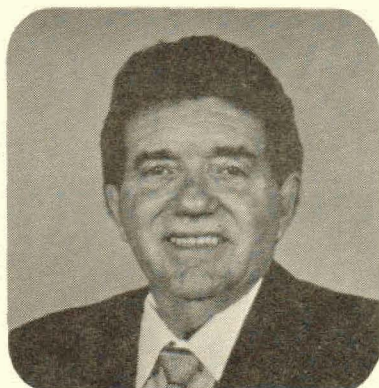
She is also a former member and co-chair of the Mississippi State Alumni Committee on Diversity and served three years on the Mississippi Task Force on Reducing Illiteracy. She was a U. S. Senate

appointee to the White House Conference on Indian Education in 1992 and she recently completed a term on the Mississippi Workforce Development Council which works to coordinate workforce training with business and industry to make sure that training is consistent with the needs of industry.

In addition, she is a technical reviewer for several programs within the U.S. Department of Education and for the Women's Equity in Education Center and has worked as a consultant for the U. S. Department of the Interior in developing standards for preschool and adult education and procedures for the planning, design and construction of educational facilities.

A 1965 Neshoba Central High School graduate, Rogers received a bachelor's degree in English and a master's in education from Mississippi State University.





## *"Athletic Hall of Fame"* **Van Chancellor**

*Houston, Texas*

Chancellor, a 1963 ECCC graduate, serves as general manager and head coach of the Houston Comets of the Women's National Basketball Association. In the league's first two years of existence, Chancellor has led the Comets to championship titles both seasons and garnered for himself "Coach of the Year" honors in recognition of each successful campaign. His overall mark at Houston stands at 51 wins and just 14 losses.

Prior to joining the Houston Comets' organization, Chancellor spent 19 seasons guiding the Lady Rebel basketball program at the University of Mississippi. His squads produced the most successful program in school history, posting a winning percentage of .740 percent (439-154). He is also recognized as the 16th all-time winningest coach in the nation, in terms of victories.

Chancellor, who took over the Lady Rebel program in 1978 at the age of 34, never experienced a losing campaign, and 15 of his teams earned 20 or more wins and 14 were ranked in the final Associated Press Division I poll. Eight of his teams were also ranked in

the USA Today poll, which is released following the NCAA Tournament. In addition, his 1991-92 squad claimed the program's first Southeastern Conference regular season title with a perfect 11-0 mark in the newly-expanded conference format. That year the Lady Rebels also won a school record 25 consecutive games, posted a 29-3 mark and advanced to the finals of the NCAA Tournament Midwest Regional.

His championship years at Ole Miss also included the 1978-79 season, when his first Lady Rebel squad posted a 31-9 record and claimed the Mississippi State AIAW title, and the 1984-85 campaign, when Ole Miss won 24 straight games en route to a 29-3 mark and a berth in the finals of the NCAA Tournament Mideast Regional.

His 1981-82, 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85 Rebel teams won or shared SEC Western Division championships and his 1979-80 and 1982-83 squads played in the title game of the SEC Tournament.

On three occasions, Chancellor has received "Coach of the Year" recogni-

tion, representing only the fourth coach in SEC women's basketball history to receive the honor. He was also selected "National Coach of the Year" by the Women's Basketball News Service and World Almanac after the 1991-92 campaign. And, following the 1994-95 season, he was selected "Coach of the Year" by the Mississippi Sports Writers Association.

Chancellor is a former standout basketball player at Louisville High School where he averaged 24 points per game his senior season. He continued his athletic career at then East Central Junior College where he played two years for Coach Denver Brackeen.

From East Central, Chancellor transferred to Mississippi State University where he received a bachelor's degree in math and physical education in 1965. He also entered the coaching ranks during his senior year at MSU, serving as head coach of the boys' basketball team at Noxapater High School.

After receiving his undergraduate degree, Chancellor directed the boys' program at Noxapater for an additional

season before taking over as head coach of the boys' and girls' basketball teams at Horn Lake.

During his seven-year tenure at Horn Lake, Chancellor compiled an impressive 337-103 record, which included a 164-51 mark as boys' coach and a 173-52 slate leading the girls' program.

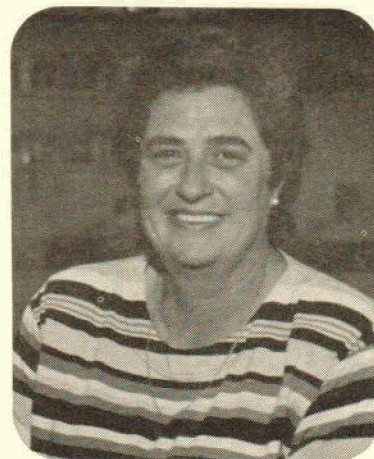
Chancellor left Horn Lake for Harrison Central High School, where his teams posted a five-year record of 277 wins and 62 losses (121-38 boys' record; 156-24 girls' mark). During this period he also earned a master's degree in education from Ole Miss. He left Harrison Central to take over the Lady Rebel program.

Chancellor is married to the former Betty Cannon, also of Louisville. They have two grown children - John, who serves as girls' basketball coach at Pascagoula High School and is married to the former Angela Farias, and Renee, girls' basketball coach at Water Valley High School. Renee is married to Kevin Asaro.



# *"Athletic Hall of Fame"* *Deborah Norwood Duncan*

*Philadelphia*



Many athletes dream of being a part of a state or national championship team, but for Duncan, a 1970 ECCC graduate, those dreams became realities, not just once but six times - with two of the championships coming on the national level! Winning titles also followed Duncan in the coaching ranks, as her basketball and track teams also claimed various honors.

Duncan's championship years actually began at Louisville High School, where she was a three-year letter-winner in basketball and track.

She helped lead the Lady Wildcats to three Choctaw Conference titles and two district titles. In recognition of her accomplishments on the basketball court, Duncan was named an All-Star in 1968, All-State in 1967, and All-North State, All Choctaw Conference and All-District in 1965, 1967 and 1968.

In track, Duncan set several records in the high jump and led the Lady Wildcats to three conference and district titles and two North Division championships.

From Louisville, Duncan continued her athletic career at Nashville Business College, which was then a perennial power in the AAU League, and helped lead the NBC women to their eighth straight national title! Although she was a member of the National Business College basketball team, she actually took classes at George Peabody College (which has since merged with Vanderbilt University), due to an agreement between the two colleges.

NBC dropped basketball after

her freshman year, and Duncan decided to enroll at then East Central Junior College where she became a three-sport letter-winner. She began her athletic competition as a member of Coach Lucille Wood's volleyball team which completed season action by winning the state championship.

Then it was on to basketball season and once again, Coach Wood led Duncan and her teammates to another state championship. Duncan also participated in tennis and was the leading singles player.

Duncan continued her success in basketball and volleyball when she attended Mississippi State College for Women (MSCW) during the 1970-71 and 1971-72 terms.

She was named to several All-Tournament teams in volleyball and basketball, including her selection as most valuable player at the University of West Georgia Volleyball Tournament. Duncan and her volleyball teammates won several tournaments including the state tournament both years she was on the team. She was named to the All-Squad her senior season.

Duncan's accomplishments continued on the basketball court, as the "W" won state titles her junior and senior years, in addition to capturing the Houston, Texas Invitational Tournament along with several other invitational. Duncan was an All-State choice both years.

Obviously a highlight of her "W" career was being a member of the 1970-71 national championship squad. That year, MSCW was the first Mississippi team

invited to the prestigious National Invitational Tournament, which was used as a format for deciding the women's college champion. Not only did Duncan and her teammates make history that year, she also made her own mark by being named the state's first female athlete to be selected an All-American while a member of a Mississippi college team.

Following graduation from the "W," Duncan began her teaching and coaching career. She taught chemistry, physics and biology as well as coaching basketball and track for high school and junior high girls.

She first served at Winston Academy, where she coached basketball and track from 1972-74. Her track teams won district titles both years and the 1974 squad captured North State and State honors. Following that championship season, Duncan was chosen "Coach of the Year."

Duncan then led basketball and track teams at Bayou Academy in Boyle, Miss., from 1974-80. During this period, her tracksters earned four State, North State and district titles and were Regional Relay champions for three seasons. And once again, Duncan received "Coach of the Year" recognition. (It should be noted that those track teams still hold several state records.)

When she started her family, Duncan semi-retired from coaching on the high school level in 1980, and began leading junior high programs. She served at North Sunflower Academy in Drew from 1981-84, where her track teams won conference titles all three years and her basketball

squads won two conference championships.

Duncan took over the Neshoba Central junior high school program in 1990, and led her basketball teams to successful campaigns, including one undefeated season before retiring in 1995. She continues to coach golf at Neshoba Central High School, a program she initiated in 1996. Her athletic involvement also includes her service as clock operator for high school basketball games.

Like her success as an athlete and coach, Duncan's accomplishments in the classroom have not gone unnoticed. Twice she has received "Teacher of the Year" honors, on five occasions she was named STAR Teacher, and she was an American Chemical Society (ACS) Chemistry "Teacher of the Year" in 1996 followed by her selection as Exemplary Teacher of Mississippi in 1997.

In addition to her previously mentioned degrees, Duncan holds a master's degree in physical education from Delta State University and has earned master's degree certification in chemistry and physics to her state teacher's certification. She received 30-plus graduate hours from Mississippi State University and Mississippi University for Women, and attends science workshops each summer to keep up with changes in educational pedagogy.

Duncan and her husband, Jim, have two children. Brandi is a sophomore at East Central and Greg is a junior at Neshoba Central High School.





## *"Athletic Hall of Fame"* **Howard Sessums**

*Clinton*

Sessums, a former standout at Morton High School, was a four-sport letterman at East Central, excelling in football, basketball, baseball and track during the 1946-47 and 1947-48 college terms. He was an All-State selection at tailback his freshman season and received All-State honors both years as a forward on the Warrior basketball team. In addition, he won first place in the 100- and 200 yard dash and the 220-yard low hurdles in the state track meet his sophomore season. At the end of the 1945-46 season, Sessums was selected "Most Athletic" in recognition of his accomplishments in all four sports.

Sessums continued his athletic career at Mississippi College, where he was a first team All Dixie Conference selection in football and basketball. He also served as basketball team captain. In addition, he again excelled in track, winning top honors in the 100- and 220-yard runs and

220-yard low hurdles in the Dixie Conference track meet. He set a new record in the low hurdles which remained until the conference was abolished.

Following graduation from MC in 1950, Sessums began a successful career as a teacher, coach and school administrator.

He served one year as teacher/coach at Ethel High School before moving on to Drew High School where his football teams won the Delta Valley Conference title three of the four years he led the program. His basketball and track teams also captured conference championships. During this period Sessums received "Coach of the Year" honors. He later served two years as principal at Magee High School before assuming the same duties at Prentiss High School from 1957-67.

He left the field of education to become personnel director and later plant manager at Mississippi Industries for the Blind, where he was employed

until 1972. At this time he began his career with the Miss. Department of Education that continued until his retirement in 1990. While serving with the education department, Sessums was elected to the Public Employees Retirement board, serving a six-year term. He also served as Board president for two years.

Through the years Sessums has maintained his love of sports by officiating football games from 1955 to 1990 and basketball contests for three years during that period. He currently serves as secretary of the Mississippi Football Officials Association where his duties including recruiting, training and evaluating officials in addition to assigning them to games. He has served the past six years as State Director of the National High School Officials Association.

Sessums, who was inducted into the Mississippi College Sports Hall of Fame in 1981, is a

former national president of the MC Alumni Association and played a major role in helping raise funds to construct the college's new football stadium.

In addition to his associate's degree from East Central and bachelor's degree from MC, Sessums holds a master's degree in school administration and an educational specialist degree from the University of Southern Mississippi. He has completed additional course work at Mississippi College.

He is married to the former Marion Morrison of Heidelberg, who recently retired following a 31-year career in the field of education. They have two grown children, Dr. Howard Sessums, Jr., a family physician in Vicksburg, and Dr. Cathy Sessums, an OB/GYN in Hattiesburg. Dr. Howard Sessums is married to the former Lisa Carter of Greenwood and they have three sons, Hildon III, Carter and Robert.



# *"Academic Instructor of the Year"*

## *Leesa Lee Wilkinson*

*Meridian*



Leesa Lee Wilkinson always knew she wanted to be a piano teacher. "I'm one of those unique individuals who knew as early as the ninth grade that I wanted to be a piano teacher. I didn't really have to think about it. I just always knew deep down inside that it was what I wanted to do. It just came naturally to me. I never really questioned it," said Wilkinson.

"I consider myself lucky, especially after seeing college students who still don't know what they want to do. I just believe that anybody who has a natural gift of music should use it," said Wilkinson. And that's exactly what she has done.

Wilkinson came to East Central in 1985 after having taught public school music in the Newton County schools for two years. She taught at East Central eight years before moving to Conroe, Texas, with her family. After three years in Texas, Wilkinson and her family moved back to Mississippi, where she was able to regain her position at East Central. While she was in Texas, Wilkinson taught fifth and sixth grade music at Creighton Intermediate School.

"There are so many unique things about teaching on the college level versus the ele-

mentary level. I feel that I'm not tied down to a certain room for so many hours. And I feel so lucky that I'm getting to teach what I love to do," said Wilkinson.

"I do feel my experience in Texas was worthwhile. During my music for children class, now that I've had that experience in the secondary situation, I can give them hands on experience," said Wilkinson. "I've been there and done that. And I think it's given me a unique position as far as teaching that course."

When asked to comment on the best parts of her job, Wilkinson said, "One of the best things about East Central is getting to work with the people I work with, not just in the music department but in other areas. I feel very honored to tell people I work at East Central."

"Probably the best thing about East Central is the understanding and support of the administration. Without their support, we couldn't do what we're trying to do," she added.

"One of the more difficult things is the amount of time spent at night with rehearsals and that kind of thing. It's not really difficult, but time consuming, especially if you have a family."

"What is amazing to me,"

said Wilkinson, "are students who come in that might have a minor disability, whether hearing pitches or reading ability, and how they always seem to surprise me and go the extra mile and do it."

Wilkinson said one of the most unique parts of her job is to hear back from former students. "I've had several students who call me and tell me they've finished their degrees or they've taken time off to get married or something. They are always so nice. I really appreciate it. It makes it all worthwhile."

Her only pet peeve is promptness. "I can't stand for students to be late or to miss class. I stress that to them and I try to make class fun and interesting where they'll want to come," said Wilkinson.

Wilkinson said she feels it an honor to be asked to judge or accompany artists. She most recently judged a competition for the Alabama Music Teachers Association.

She has served as an accompanist for many recitals, choirs and various receptions. She has been the pianist for Poplar Springs Drive Methodist Church for eight years and served as a pit accompanist for the Meridian Little Theater for three and a half years.

While in Conroe, Texas, she was a member of the Texas Music Teacher's Association. She was one of five East Central faculty members selected as a Lamplighter in 1997, a program which recognizes outstanding community and junior college instructors.

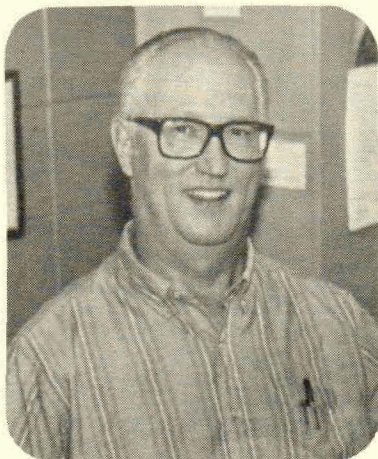
Wilkinson said, "After having lived in Texas for three years and then returning to East Central, I can truly testify to anyone what an honor it is to teach at this institution with such highly esteemed faculty and staff."

When commenting on her honor, Wilkinson said, "I'm truly humbled and honored in the midst of the other faculty that I'm able to teach with. I'm humbled because there are some truly incredible faculty here. So, it's really an honor to me."

In her spare time, Wilkinson loves to entertain for family and friends and enjoys decorating her home. A graduate of Forest High School, she attended East Central and received bachelor's and master's degrees from Mississippi State University.

She is married to Keith Wilkinson, a simulator/flight instructor at NAS Meridian. They have one daughter, Kirstin Lee Wilkinson, 4.





## *"Vocational-Technical Instructor of the Year"* **Conrad Germany**

*Union*

"With my background I just thought I would like to work with kids. To me it's a challenge to help shape the lives of young people and point them in a direction that's positive and beneficial for the rest of their lives. That's one of the reasons I started teaching in the first place," said Conrad Germany.

"I've always enjoyed working with young people. And I still do. It's a joy to be with the students," said Germany.

The son of a minister, Germany graduated from high school in Scottsbluff, Nebraska, where his father was pastoring a church. He later moved to Anderson, Indiana, where he met and married the former Patricia Pelfrey of Middletown, Ohio. Germany said, "After our first child was born, we decided to move to a place where we didn't feel like the pace of life was so fast." Germany and his family moved to the Mississippi Gulf Coast where they lived for three years. They later moved to Pensacola, Florida, where Germany began teaching auto body repair in the Escambia County school system. He began teaching in an adult education program at night and later changed to teaching high school students.

In 1977, Germany moved his family to Union where he worked in industry for a number

of years. From 1986 to 1990 he was owner/operator of

Germany's Body Shop. In 1990, he applied for and accepted the Collision Repair instructor position at East Central. Germany said, "It had always been a desire of mine (to teach at East Central) from the time we left Florida, but it took about 13 years from the time we left to get back into teaching."

"It's (teaching) been really interesting and very challenging. It has really kept me on my toes., especially since I've been at the college. Because technology is changing so fast, students have a tendency to get left behind. It's hard to bring them to the level industry expects them to be working at. It's been a real challenge to bring the class to where it is. We've made a lot of progress in the last eight years, but we still have more that needs to be done."

"I think one of the biggest challenges is getting people to perceive the automobile collision trade as it really is. A lot of people have a total misconception of what goes on. Even the students that come in wanting to be a part of it do not have any comprehension of the skill level, the mental faculties they'll have to use to really be successful. That's been one of the biggest challenges, to change their perception of what they're going to

do on the job and what reality actually is."

One of the highlights of Germany's career came when his youngest son, Randy, completed the Collision Repair Technology courses in 1995. He placed first in state VICA (Vocational Industrial Clubs of America) competition both years he attended ECCC. The first year he placed eleventh in national competition and the second year he received second place honors at the national level.

"Even though it was my son, that was a real high point in my career. But I've had several other students that were just as capable. Chris Spears of Decatur placed thirteenth in national competition the year before," said Germany. Among professional organizations of which Germany is a member are MAVE (Mississippi Association of Vocational Educators), VICA (Vocational Industrial Clubs of America), AVA (American Vocational Association), and the Collision Repair Instructors Network through the ICAR (Inter-Industry Conference on Automobile Collision Repair) Education Foundation, which works through the colleges and secondary schools to improve the quality of students. He is a former member of ASA

(Automotive Service Association) and is ASE (Automotive Service Excellence) Certified. He is also a member of the East Central Alumni Association.

Among his hobbies, Germany enjoys metal and woodworking. He also enjoys working with collectable and antique cars, but says he doesn't have much time to work with them. "I have a barn full of them that haven't been touched, I just can't seem to find time to work on them. But I do have a few that I one day hope to restore."

Germany is an active member of Bluff Springs Church of God in Union. He and his wife, Patricia, have three sons: Larry, is a food services manager with Morrison's in Dalton, Georgia; Donald is employed with Diversified Technology in Jackson; and Randy lives in Clinton where he works in communications with the Mississippi Air National Guard. They also have two grandchildren, Jarod Moore and Todd Austin Germany.

Commenting on his recognition Germany said, "I've always been one when it comes to honors, I don't really feel worthy, but I appreciate it. I've worked very hard at my profession. I've worked very hard at what I've done at East Central. So it's a

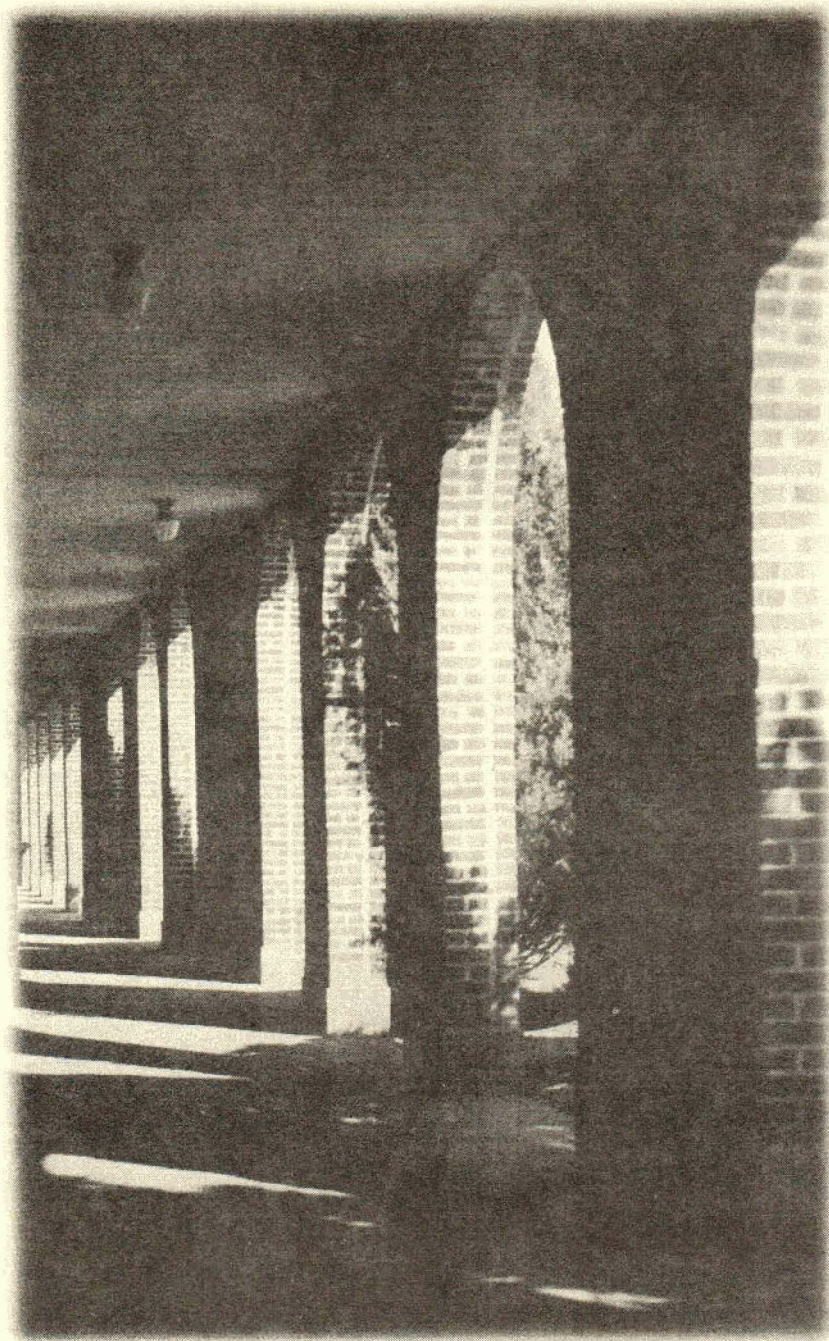


## 1998 Homecoming Court



*Members of the 1998 Homecoming Court include (seated, from left) Maid of Honor Corrin Chambliss of Louisville and Queen Natalie Vowell of Winston Academy; and (standing, from left) sophomore maids Ragan Mitchell of Nanih Waiya, Lasherish Anderson of Lake and Ginger Moore of Noxapater; and freshman maids Sonya Clearman of West Lauderdale, Nykela Horne of Neshoba Central, Angela Jayroe of Louisville and Ashley McDill of Newton County.*





*Photo furnished by Bet Thames of Newton.*

## The Colonnade

Do you remember when these arches connected all the buildings on the front campus? The section pictured above was in front of Founders' Gym before it was enclosed to create the present bookstore. This spot was a favorite hangout for students before the construction of Sullivan Student Center.



MRVF-140  
ECCC



## ALMA MATER

Composed and Adopted - 1936

Music by: Elizabeth Bustin Brannon

Lyrics By: Marguerite Dacey

Dear Alma Mater, we sing thy praise  
In sweet remembrance of our college days  
Comrades and teachers, friends so true  
We give our love to you.

Long will we cherish the days spent with thee  
Happy days of dreams, work and play so carefree  
Deep in our hearts rests your memories true  
Here's all our love to you.

## Homecoming 1988

October 22



## ALUMNA OF THE YEAR VERBIE LOVORN PREVOST

Dr. Verbie Lovorn Prevost, the daughter of W. G. Lovorn and the late Eunice Grimes Lovorn, is a native of Leake County, Mississippi. She has a brother, Joseph and three sisters, Eloise, Grace, and Carolyn. All five of the Lovorn children attended East Central Junior College. Dr. Prevost now resides in Chattanooga, Tennessee, with her husband Hugh Prevost, Jr., who is Director of Cooperative Education at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. The Prevosts are the parents of two children, Blair Alexander who is eleven and Alison Leigh, age ten.

Dr. Prevost graduated from Thomastown High School as the Valedictorian of her class. She received the A.A. Degree from East Central Junior College and was the Salutatorian. Her B.A. and M.A. Degrees are from Mississippi College, and she earned the Ph.D. in American Literature from the University of Mississippi. Dr. Prevost has also studied at the Yeats International School in Sligo, Ireland.

While at East Central, she was a member of Phi Theta Kappa, Sigma Tau Sigma, the Baptist Student Union, the choir, the TOM-TOM staff and the college speech team. She represented East Central at the State Junior College Speech Festival and at the end of her sophomore year was elected to the East Central Hall of Fame.

Upon graduating from Mississippi College, Dr. Prevost returned to East Central and taught English for one year. She then accepted a position as an instructor at Mississippi College. She was next employed by the University of Alabama and taught there until accepting her present position as Coordinator of English Developmental Studies and Acting Director of English Composition at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.

Currently, Dr. Prevost is a member of the Educational Advisory Board for the Collegiate Press and the National Council of the Teachers of English Committee on Contemporary Issues. She has presented scholarly papers at the South Central Modern Language Association, the National Association of Developmental Studies, and the Popular Culture Association. She has also written widely on the subject of remedial and developmental studies. Recently, Dr. Prevost received a grant to attend the Pennsylvania State Conference on Rhetoric and Composition.

Community involvement plays a large part in Dr. Prevost's activities. She is a member of the Baptist Church, Friends of the Library, is a Commissioner for the Middle Valley Soccer League, and does volunteer work at the Big Ridge Elementary School and the School for the Arts and Sciences in Chattanooga.

In addition to being named East Central's Alumna of the Year for 1988, Dr. Prevost was recently named Outstanding Teacher in the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.



## ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

### HENRY BANE "BUBBA" HUDSPETH

Mr. Henry B. "Bubba" Hudspeth is a native of Winston County and is the son of Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Hudspeth of Louisville. He is married to the former Faye McCully and is the father of a daughter, Allyson, who is married to James Kinard, and a son, Cully, who is a sophomore at East Central.

"Bubba" Hudspeth attended high school in Louisville. In the fall of 1957, he entered ECJC and began what has become a long-time interest in and dedication to the institution. While a student here, Mr. Hudspeth was active in several campus clubs and was selected as a class favorite and served as editor of the WO-HE-LO.

Civic activities of Mr. Hudspeth include membership in the Louisville Rotary Club, of which he is a past director, and the Louisville-Winston County Chamber of Commerce. He is also very active in political affairs, having served in various capacities for state and national candidates. An eleven year period of service in the Mississippi National Guard is further evidence of the interest Mr. Hudspeth has in his community and state.

Mr. Hudspeth is a member of the First Baptist Church in Louisville. He has chaired and served on numerous committees relating to the work of the church and presently serves as Director of the 9th and 10th Grade Department of the Sunday School Division.

Success in his professional career is indicated by Mr. Hudspeth's positions as President of Ballard & Hudspeth Construction-Real Estate, Inc. and President of Nu-Foods System, Inc. He also serves as Associate Director of Sunburst Bank of Louisville.

Mr. Hudspeth was appointed to the Board of Trustees of East Central Junior College in October of 1968 and has faithfully served in that capacity for over nineteen years. Since July 1983, he has served as Chairman of the Board of Trustees and was recently honored by the Mississippi Community/Junior College Trustees Association for his service. During the years that he has served as board chairman, the college has experienced a period of tremendous growth and a name change. Mr. Hudspeth is an active participant in the activities of East Central Community College, frequently attending athletic events, social activities, theatrical productions, and other programs on campus.

Henry Bane Hudspeth has, for the past two decades, given freely of his time, efforts, and expertise to the expansion of the physical plant and improvement of all instructional programs at East Central Community College. He has always realized the importance of the college to this area of the state and has worked diligently to help East Central fulfill its mission of service.



# HOMEcoming LUNCHEON

MABRY MEMORIAL CAFETERIA

OCTOBER 22, 1988

12:00 Noon

Dr. Pam Kirk, Alumni President, Presiding

Entertainment

Ms. Leesa Lee, Pianist

Invocation

Mr. M. Foch Duncan, President  
Class of 1938

Welcome and Introductions

Dr. Eddie M. Smith, President

Nominating Committee Report

Mr. Paul Simmons

Alumni Business

Dr. Pam Kirk

Recognition of Homecoming Court

Dr. Eddie M. Smith

Recognition of Reunion Groups

Basketball Team of 1968

Athletic Association

Classes Ending in "8"

Awarding of Golden

Anniversary Diplomas

Mr. Joe Clark

Mr. Earl Marshall

Dr. Brad J. Tucker

Dr. Eddie M. Smith

Recognition of Special Alumni

Dr. Phil Sutphin, Dean of  
Students

Drawing for Painting

Dr. Phil Sutphin

Golf Tournament Winner

Mr. Tommy Thrash

Tennis Tournament Winners

Mr. Sammy Pace

Presentation of the Faculty  
of the Year Awards

Dr. Brad J. Tucker

Presentation of the Athletic  
Hall of Fame Award

Mr. Arno Vincent

Presentation of the Alumna  
of the Year Award

Mr. Ovid Vickers

Presentation of the Alumnus  
of the Year Award

Dr. Eddie M. Smith

Adjourn

Dr. Pam Kirk



## ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

### HOWARD JEAN SESSUMS

Howard Sessums of Harperville in Scott County started for the Warrior basketball team in his freshman year and made the All-State Team as forward. Having then been activated with the local unit of the National Guard for the Korean Conflict, he played for the Fort Jackson South Carolina Army Post. He made the All Post Team and All Third Army Team as they won the Third Army Championship in 1951.

He returned with his team to the East Central campus in 1952-53 for his sophomore season. As a sophomore, he made All-State and All American while helping lead his team to the State Junior College Championship and to fourth place in the National Tournament.

After graduating from East Central, "Ses" transferred to Mississippi College and literally re-wrote their record book. Many of his records have since been broken, but thirty-three years after his graduation he still holds seven individual scoring records. They include most points in a season (774); highest per game average (31); most free pitches attempted in a game (29); and most free pitches made in a game (27).

After an outstanding coaching record in high school, Howard Sessums lost his life in a tragic automobile accident. His wife, the former Nan Britt, passed away a short time later. The children of Howard and Nan Sessums are: Kevin, an actor in New York, Kim, a medical doctor in Brookhaven, and Karole, a nurse in Nashville.

Howard Sessums is the fourth person selected for the East Central Community College Athletic Hall of Fame. He was also selected in the fourth year of the Mississippi College Hall of Fame. He joins teammate Denver Brackeen, classmate Lucille Wood, and football star Billy Wayne Baucum in the shrine.

His teammates provided the Alumni Memorial Trophy for most outstanding men's basketball player in his honor. Each year at East Central's Awards Day the Howard Sessums Memorial Trophy is inscribed with the name of that Warrior who best exemplifies those qualities of leadership, sportmanship, and overall excellence which characterized the life of Howard J. Sessums.



## ACADEMIC FACULTY OF THE YEAR AWARD

### RICHARD C. ETHRIDGE

Dr. Richard Ethridge is the son of Mrs. Vera Ethridge and the late David L. Ethridge of Meridian. He is married to the former Virginia Marble of Edinburg, and they have three daughters, Mrs. Rita Curry of Jackson, Miss Jan Ethridge of Jackson, and Mrs. Kay Rawson of Meridian.

Ethridge earned his Associate of Arts Degree from Clarke College and received the Bachelor of Arts Degree from Mississippi College. He continued his education at Mississippi State University where he received the Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy in American History.

In 1961, upon completion of the Master's Degree, he joined the ECCC faculty in the Social Science Department. He has taught world civilization, government, German, and American History for the college. He is currently serving as the Chairman of the Social Science, Business Administration and Education Division, Chairman of the Student Discipline Committee, and Chairman of the Liberal Arts Curriculum Study Committee. In addition, he is a member of the Student Recruitment Task Force, the Curriculum Committee, and the Textbook Committee.

Professionally, Dr. Ethridge holds membership in the local faculty organization, the Newton County Historical Society, and the Mississippi Historical Society. He has served the Mississippi Historical Society as an officer of the Board of Directors and as Chairman of several committees. He is a member of Eta Sigma Phi, Phi Gamma Mu, and Phi Alpha Theta, as well as having been named a Phi Kappa Phi Scholar at Mississippi State University.

Scholarly works by Dr. Ethridge have appeared in publications of the Mississippi University and College Press, the Louisiana State University Press, and various journals and newspapers. He has presented papers before such groups as the Mississippi Historical Society and is in demand as a speaker before business and civic groups.

In the community, Dr. Ethridge is a member of the Clarke Venable Baptist Church where he teaches the Married Couples Training Union Class.

Ethridge has been listed in Outstanding Young Men of America, Outstanding Educators of America, Personalities of the South and Who's Who in the South and Southwest.



## VOCATIONAL FACULTY OF THE YEAR AWARD

### JOHN C. ADCOCK

John Chandler Adcock is a native Winston countian. He is married to the former Rosemary Seay of Yazoo City. They have a daughter Vicki, who is in the 7th grade.

Adcock graduated from Nanih Waiya High School and attended East Central Community College for two years. He graduated from the University of Southern Mississippi in May 1969, and was inducted into the Army in June of 1969. The majority of his military duty was served in Okinawa in the Armed Forces Police. After military service, he enrolled in graduate school at Delta State University and completed the M.Ed. Degree in Counseling and Guidance. He recently received the Ed.S. Degree from Mississippi State University in Educational Leadership and Supervision.

He began his education career as a counselor for the ABE-GED program at Mississippi State Penitentiary. He served in this capacity for one year. Adcock came to East Central in 1974 as Counselor in the Vocational-Technical Division.

Professionally, Adcock is a member of the local Education Association, Mississippi Counseling Association, Mississippi Community-Junior College Counseling Association, Mississippi Vocational Association, and the local, state, and national VICA Club. He was selected College Counselor of the Year by the Mississippi Counseling Association in 1983.

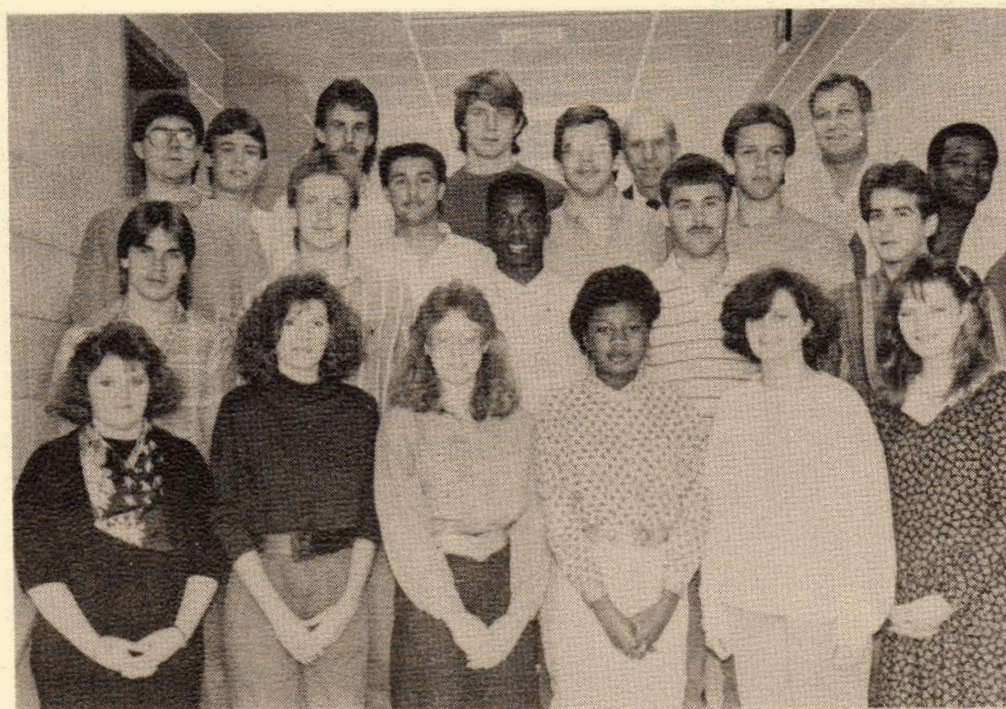
He is a member of the Highland Baptist Church in Meridian.



The tradition of excellence continues. . . .



The WO-HE-LO, college yearbook in its 50th year of publication, won first place in the state in theme, first place in copy and second place in overall excellence. The editors were Marshall Watkins of Carthage and Tammy Todd of Philadelphia. Mrs. Carol Vickers is sponsor.



Alpha, Alpha, Episolon--the Engineering Club, was named as one of thirty-one college chapters in the nation receiving an award of excellence. Only five were community/junior colleges and none of the other four were from Mississippi. Terry Matula, Stacey Lashley, Randal Copeland, and Vicki Arthur were officers and Dr. Shelby Harris is the advisor.